The DUTY *and* ADVANTAGES *of encouraging* PUBLIC INFIRMARIES, *further considered.*

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A

SERMON,

Preached before HIS GRACE

CHARLES Duke of *Richmond*, *Lenox*, and *Aubigny*,

PRESIDENT;

AND THE

GOVERNORS

OF THE

LONDON INFIRMARY,

In GOODMAN'S-FIELDS,

FOR THE

RELIEF of Sick and Diſeaſed MANUFACTURERS, and SEAMEN in MERCHANT-SERVICE, *&c.*

AT THE

Pariſh Church of *St. Lawrence-Jewry*,

On WEDNESDAY, *April* 25, 1744.

By the Right Reverend Father in God,

ISAAC, *Lord Biſhop of* Worceſter.

Publiſhed at the Requeſt of the PRESIDENT and GOVERNORS.

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Printed by H. WOODFALL, jun. in *Little-Britain*: and Sold by J. BROTHERTON, in *Cornhill*; and J. STAGG, in *Weſtminſter Hall*. 1744.

The DUTY and ADVANTAGES of encouraging PUBLIC LIBRARIES, further conſidered.

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SERMON,

Preached before His GRACE

CHARLES Duke of Richmond,

Lenox, and Aubigny,

PRESIDENT;

AND THE

GOVERNORS

OF THE

LONDON INFIRMARY,

in GOODMANS-FIELDS,

BRITISH MUSEUM

Relief of Sick and Diſeaſed Manufacturers,

and Seamen in Merchant-Service, &c.

AT THE

Parish Church of St. Leonard-Shoreditch,

On WEDNESDAY, [illegible]

By the Right Reverend Father in God,

ISAAC, Lord Biſhop of Worceſter.

LONDON:

Printed by T. Woodward, at the Half-Moon; and Sold by J. Peele, at Locke's Head, in Paternoſter-Row, and J. Brace, in Ruſſel-Street, Covent-Garden. 1744.

LUKE, Chap. XI. Ver. 2.

When ye pray say, our Father which art in Heaven.

AMONG the many Advantages of Prayer and Devotion, 'tis certainly no inconsiderable one, that the Mind, by this religious Exercise, is more deeply impress'd with those useful Sentiments, which, upon many other Occasions, are acknowledged in a less powerful and affecting Manner. Thus, for Example; tho' the paternal Relation of the Supreme Being towards Mankind has so just a Foundation in the Nature of Things, that we find it, not only represented and enforced in the sacred Writings, but Heathen Authors likewise have made very

lively Deſcriptions of, and drawn very pertinent Inferences from the ſame Notion; by conſidering the Deity, according to the Suggeſtion of the Text, as the great Parent of Mankind, the common Father of the Race of Men: Yet our Bleſſed Saviour, in order to place in the ſtrongeſt Light, and give the utmoſt Efficacy to a Maxim that conveys ſo much Comfort and Inſtruction, has been pleaſed to enjoin the fixing our Thoughts upon this Article, and making a ſerious Profeſſion of it, at every Approach to the Throne of Grace, at the very ſolemn Seaſons of immediate Application to an Omniſcient and Allpowful Being. WHEN YE PRAY, *ſay, our Father which art in Heaven.* Such a direct Appeal to God himſelf gives a new Sanction to this Acknowledgement of the paternal Character of the Deity; and, in a Manner, confirms our Belief and Recognition of that Important Truth, with the Solemnity of an Oath—*When ye* PRAY, *ſay, our Father which art in Heaven.*

AND, from no Topic can the good Work, for which we are now aſſembled, derive more Benefit, or be recommended with a fairer Proſpect of Succeſs, than by looking up to Almighty

mighty God as a Father; a Father, to whose affectionate Authority we owe, as obedient Children, a chearful Submission. Our Father, the common Parent of Mankind; the God and Father of us all; and, of course, we are all equally his Off-spring, and connected together among ourselves by the near and tender Relation of a Brother: Our Father *in Heaven*; the great Sovereign of the World; the Judge and Ruler of Mankind, who strictly commands such Acts of Charity; and requires under the highest Sanctions, that *He who loves God should love his Brother also.*

But, before these Considerations are further urged, it may not be improper, very briefly, to review the Nature of that Design, in Behalf of which, this Audience is once more piously assembled; and consider, if this Instance of Charity be not attended with peculiar Circumstances, that render it, in a distinguished Manner, acceptable to God, our Father in Heaven, and useful to Men, our Brethren: Nor indeed can Justice be done to this charitable Undertaking, without reviewing, very slightly, at least, the general Plan and Extent of this useful Work, wisely and compassionately intended to preserve and pro-

long a Multitude of Lives; and by the moſt effectual Methods to alleviate and remove that great Variety of painful Infirmities attendant upon this State of Mortality: A Scheme, contrived with equal Prudence and Humanity, to communicate the important Bleſſing of Health with all its valuable Comforts, to thoſe, who are languiſhing with Sickneſs, or tormented with racking Pains: Happieſt Exchange that can upon Earth befal the Sons of *Adam!* healthful Eaſe for grievous Tortures; Strength for Weakneſs; Liberty for ſore Confinement; Joy for Sorrow!

'Tis a Scheme to abate and relieve the double Weight of Indigence and Pain; to remove the combined Diſtreſs of Sickneſs and Poverty too; either of which alone, thoſe, who have felt either, well know to be a ſevere and heavy Viſitation.

'Tis a generous but careful Contrivance to aſſiſt, with tender and effectual Sympathy, real and ſubſtantial Miſery; where deceitful Idleneſs, Fraud and Impoſture can never be employed to abuſe or pervert the Deſign of Charity.

'Tis kindly and ſeaſonably to relieve the moſt affecting Objects of Compaſſion, diligent,

 uſeful,

useful MANUFACTURERS, whose laborious Days are consumed in the Service of their Country; and to furnish you with the many Entertainments of a plentiful and easy Condition; whose constant Industry, in full Health, acquires only a scanty Provision for themselves and their Families: But now, when the additional Expence of Sickness comes upon them, this very Circumstance, that demands a larger Fund, puts a full Stop to their former Labour; and by an unhappy Reverse, when pressing Necessity demands the most, the usual Endeavours, unfortunately interrupted, can procure the least, if any Supply.

THE other Objects of this well-contrived Charity are a very valuable and useful Body of People, the SEAMEN IN MERCHANT-SERVICE; who pass through great Toil and Danger, to continue and extend that Commerce, upon which the Wealth, the Power and the Honour of the Nation depend; and from whence the Superiority of the Rich and Great is intirely derived or supported: Destitute of all public Provision, they are delivered up by divine Providence to your private Charity and Compassion, to your Prudence and Justice, for some Relief under those grievous Distem-

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pers frequently contracted in the various Climates thro' which they paſs, and the numerous Hardſhips, which they, for the public Good, are continually obliged to undergo.

ENCOURAGEMENT and Support, in every neceſſary Form, are wiſely adminiſtred, at every Juncture, to theſe beneficial Members of the Community; beneficial indeed, for to them every Indvidual in the Kingdom ſtands indebted, not only for the general Strength and Riches procured by their Fatigue and Hazards, in carrying into Foreign Countries the various Produce of their own; but for importing likewiſe many uſeful Commodities, for the Comfort, the Convenience and Support of Life; and among theſe, it may be allowed upon this Occaſion to mention particularly, what is called the *Materia Medica*, different Species of Medicinal Drugs of greateſt Efficacy and moſt general Uſe. Nor is any Return of Gratitude more natural than to beſtow on them, in their Neceſſity and Sickneſs, ſome ſmall Portion of thoſe Medicines, which, with much Peril to themſelves, they brought from far to remove your Pains, and reſtore your Health when impaired.

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Assistance and Relief such Persons may at all Times, with Reason, expect; but the present critical Conjuncture demands a particular Regard and Encouragement, where besides the common Accidents of the Ocean, they must hazard the Loss of Limbs, of Liberty, of Life. In these Circumstances, the Destruction of Seamen must unavoidably be greater, at the same Time that our Situation demands the Assistance of larger Numbers. Every Scheme, every Contrivance, in this View, appears laudable and requisite, in an uncommon Manner, to restore their Health, and preserve those necessary Lives, which, as Circumstances require, must be withdrawn from Mercantile Engagements, and unavoidably employed, not to carry abroad or bring home Conveniences or Superfluities, but to secure our very Being; to protect the Commerce; to defend the Religion, the Laws, and Liberty of our Country; to preserve our Lives and Substance, now so perfidiously menaced and attacked by our natural and inveterate Enemies, envious of our Happiness, and constantly meditating our Destruction.

Of what *public* Utility, of what general Importance and Necessity it is to preserve both these

these Orders of Men, 'tis needless to urge; there is however a Circumstance of more private Interest and Advantage, which, as every Consideration should be offered to support a Design so humane and beneficial, may not improperly be mentioned; and that is, the very great Abatement these salutary Institutions must make in Parochial Taxations, the legal Provisions for the Poor; Burdens, which even with this Alleviation and Assistance in many Places, with great Difficulty, are scarce sustained. And if that heavy Weight was increased by the additional Expence of providing for those Multitudes of distressed Objects, MORE THAN FOUR THOUSAND of which received comfortable Relief the last Year only, in this single Infirmary; might not such an Increase of Charge prove too burdensome to be long defray'd? For the higher the demand rises, inferior People of small Substance would be less able to pay their Quota; and whenever the Proportion reaches beyond their Abilities, instead of giving greater Assistance, they must themselves require some Abatement and Relief, till the growing Numbers and enlarged Expence of the Poor become quite insupportable.

But enough of the uſeful Intention and Deſign of this charitable Inſtitution; the Conduct and Management whereof equally deſerve your Approbation. How well this difficult and extenſive Charity is regulated, with what ſtrict OEconomy, with what prudent and ſucceſsful Care it is conducted, appears with full Evidence from Facts that are public and inconteſtable. It need not therefore be repeated, that the Method of Cure here proſecuted by an united Charity, is much more beneficial and diffuſive, than if it were diſperſed in ſeparate and diſtinct Donations, extends to many more Objects, and aſſiſts them all in a more ſpeedy and effectual Manner: That by this conjunct Diſpoſition, the Poor enjoy much better Advice, more exact Regimen, more wholeſome and proper Food, than can be obtained or expected, by any Method of private and particular Relief, which long Experience proves more chargeable, leſs certain, leſs expeditious, and liable to much Miſapplication.

Nor need it be again repreſented, with what peculiar and diſtinguiſh'd Compaſſion the diſtreſſed Patients are here treated, who, while the greateſt Care is taken for the Welfare both of Soul and Body, are received within theſe charitable Walls, without any Demand at their

Admiſſion: And as they are totally exempted from all preſent Payments, ſo are they free from any Requiſition of Security againſt future Contingencies, which muſt unavoidably preſs the ſoreſt upon Miſery that is moſt neceſſitous and friendleſs.

The well deſerved Approbation this excellent Charity has univerſally received; and the happy Progreſs, which by God's good Providence, it has already made, is a perſuaſive Inducement to enlarge and compleat, the great and extenſive Deſign. Such Succeſs, while it redounds to the Honour, affords a rational and noble Satisfaction to any diſtinguiſh'd Character that has appeared its public and uſeful Patron; and gives juſt Encouragement to imitate the laudable Example of its peculiar Friends and Advocates.

Highly prudent it certainly was, in the Infancy of this Scheme, not to form a Plan too large and extenſive; leſt the appearing impracticable at firſt View, ſhould create Diſcouragement and fruſtrate the whole Undertaking.

Nor was it leſs conſiderate, to employ the firſt Collections, not in raiſing any ſpacious or magnificent Buildings; but to invite and engage farther Aſſiſtance, by an Argument much more powerful and perſuaſive, than an unfiniſhed

niſhed Houſe; the actual Cure and Recovery of almoſt NINE THOUSAND, of our indigent, ſick and miſerable Fellow-creatures; happily accompliſhed in the ſhort Space of three Years and a few Months! Beſides many others who have received all the Relief their ſeveral Caſes would admit.

FROM ſuch agreeable Experience it fully appears, that this well-contrived and well-executed Project is truly beneficial to our afflicted Brethren, the Children of *our Father in Heaven*: But yet great Numbers of theſe poor Sufferers remain languiſhing at Home in Want and Pain, (melancholy Conſideration!) deſtitute of Food as well as Phyſick; ſome not having Strength to reſort to the Hoſpital as often as their mournful Caſe requires Attendance there; and others, where the Effects of the open Air might prove fatal, are unable to defray the Expence of a warmer Conveyance: At beſt theſe diſtreſſed Patients muſt want proper Nouriſhment, that *Food which is convenient for them*, and that regular Adminiſtration both of Diet and Medicines; that conſtant Attendance and Care upon which a Recovery ſo much depends; and above all, muſt loſe the Benefit of the actual, repeated Inſpection of the Phyſician, his ſeaſonable Obſervations of

the Changes that happen in the Progress of a Case, the sudden Turn or Crisis of a Distemper. And in Fact, many stubborn Complaints have been speedily removed by the Regularity and skillful Relief to be met with in these Places; Complaints that have long baffled all Attempts at Home; consumed, in vain, the Substance of the poor Sufferer, and exhausted the private Charity of his Friends.

The Number of disconsolate Creatures, who, as it were, are chained down to Misery; confined, oppressed, destroyed, by the double Load of Poverty and Sickness, appears to be much more considerable, than is generally apprehended, or considered by too many, who pass their chearful Days in Health and Plenty. And, to this long mournful Catalogue of those who are confined at Home, many more must still be added, who, for want of a compassionate, and compleat Reception and Provision, are obliged to continue their daily Labour, 'till their Distemper encreases to a fatal Height; and proves destructive, only from being neglected too long; nor is it easy to determine how great the Number is of useful Lives, that perish every Year for want of early Care, timely Retirement and Cessation from Business; which their hard Condition, that requires the Supplies

plies of conſtant Induſtry, will rarely permit.

And in caſe of ſudden Accidents, broken Limbs, ſore Contuſions and other Calamities, that require almoſt inſtantaneous Aſſiſtance, it would adminiſter great Comfort and the beſt Relief to theſe unfortunate Sufferers, if they could be ſure, in all Events, of a Reſort to a Place of Refreſhment and Cure. As far as the preſent Extent of the Infirmary will allow, ſuch Objects have always found a free Admiſſion; but enlarging its Bounds would remove the great Difficulties that frequently occur upon theſe preſſing Occaſions.

Almost incredible it is, how often the Doors even of this Houſe of Mercy, generous and friendly as they are, muſt unavoidably, when the preſent narrow Boundaries can receive no more, muſt, I ſay, unavoidably, with great Reluctance indeed, but ſtill they muſt be ſhut againſt miſerable Objects, pinched with Want, and ſtruggling with grievous Pains; Objects, that might be comfortably entertained and ſpeedily cured, were the Place of Reception duly enlarged.

In almoſt every Neighbourhood, the ſpeedy and kind Relief received by ſome encourages many others, labouring under ſimilar Diſtreſs,

treſs, to implore the ſame Aſſiſtance: and thus each known Inſtance of Succeſs continually encreaſes the Number of Applications, under the ſame deplorable Condition of Poverty and Sickneſs.—But alas! in vain!—In vain, their Prayers, their Tears, their undiſſembled Sorrow, their trembling Limbs, their wiſhful Looks, their piercing Groans.—In vain, this moving, melting Importunity; 'tis all in vain. Admittance is impoſſible; the ſcanty Building waits your neceſſary Aſſiſtance to enlarge its Bounds.

THE faithful Execution of this Charity, ſo wiſely calculated to preſerve a Multitude of uſeful Lives; the Approbation and Succeſs it has already moſt deſervedly obtained, the preſſing Wants it ſtill labours under, and the abſolute Neceſſity of a continued Supply even to preſerve it, in the preſent imperfect State; theſe and many other Powerful Conſiderations, all tend to excite and enlarge a ſeaſonable Liberality, and prevail for a public Teſtimony of your bountiful Regard; and very naturally direct, apply and improve thoſe pious and benevolent Diſpoſitions, which are excited in the Mind by every ſerious Application to *your Father which is in Heaven.*

LET

Let Popery boaſt its Convents and its Cloyſters, and numerous Lives ſpent in uſeleſs Retirement; but be it always the Glory of *Engliſhmen* and Proteſtants to act agreably to the awful Declarations of Religion, by approving themſelves obedient Children to their heavenly Father: And the cloſer the Adherence is to the Doctrine of the bleſſed *Jeſus*, let the greater Care be exerted to imitate that Divine Compaſſion, which *went about continually doing Good, and healing them that had need of healing.*

Our *Father in Heaven* does, in a peculiar Manner, require ſuch Inſtances of filial Obedience: 'Tis his expreſs Command---*Shew Mercy---Relieve the Oppreſſed---Viſit the Sick ---Be merciful as your Father in Heaven is merciful.*

Our Father---Gratitude and Duty jointly enforce Obedience to this venerable and affectionate Authority. Our Father, the common Parent of the whole human Race, *who hath made of one Blood all Nations of Men to dwell on all the Face of the Earth.* Hence the whole Body of Mankind are to be conſidered as the Offſpring and the Sons of *God*, equally honoured with the ſame high Deſcent; and hence the Offices of Love and Friendſhip; brotherly

brotherly Love and Charity, ſo agreeable to the genuine Principles of human Nature, ſo beneficial to the World, and ſo ſtrongly enjoined by Reaſon and Revelation; brotherly Love and Charity, that compaſſionate Regard, that affectionate Aſſiſtance, which is due from one Brother to another, muſt be extended to the whole human Species, without Limits or Reſerve; Climate or Country, Cuſtoms or Opinions, make no Alteration in the Caſe. *Have we not all one Father. Hath not one God created us?* even our Father in Heaven.

THUS the Ideas riſe upon us: Our Father IN HEAVEN: In Heaven, from whence he looks down with Approbation; and where he will for ever reward, with Happineſs and Honour, that compaſſionate Bounty, with which he has declared himſelf to be now honoured.

YOUR Father in Heaven. Your Creator and Benefactor, from whoſe paternal Goodneſs proceeds every Bleſſing you now enjoy; whoſe Divine Clemency defends you from thoſe Calamities your Fellow-Creatures ſuffer, and preſerves your Life in Safety; *fills your Heart with Food and Gladneſs, and crowneth you with loving Kindneſs and tender Mercy!*

YOUR Father in Heaven: Your Sovereign and your Judge; your final Judge! With what Force should this Consideration operate upon the Mind, when you remember (and who can venture to forget what is so authentically declared?) that the Proceedings of this awful Judgment, the great Event of the Day will be determined upon the Relief given or refused to the Distresses of your sick and needy Brethren.

HEAR the Lord of Life and Glory, who will sit in Judgment upon you (*Matt.* xxv. 34.) *Then shall the King say unto them on his Right Hand, Come, ye Blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the Foundation of the World; for I was an hungred and ye gave me Meat---I was a Stranger and ye took me in---I was sick and ye visited me.*

THEN *shall he also say to them on his Left Hand, Depart from me, ye Cursed, into everlasting Fire, prepared for the Devil and his Angels---For I was an hungred and ye gave me no Meat---I was a Stranger and ye took me not in---Sick and in Prison and ye visited me not.*

WHAT Words can describe, what human Mind can now conceive the heavy Dread, the piercing Anxiety that will then labour in your

agitated Mind, when the Sound of the Trumpet ſhall awaken you from the ſilent Chambers of the Grave: *When the Lord himſelf ſhall deſcend from Heaven with a Shout, with the Voice of an Arch-angel and the Trump of God: When the Heavens ſhall paſs away with a great Noiſe, the Elements ſhall melt with fervent Heat; the Earth alſo and all that therein is ſhall be burnt up, when the Son of Man ſhall come in his Glory, and all the holy Angels with him; and the Dead ſhall ariſe, both Small and Great?*

In Circumſtances ſo deeply affecting, when you are called forth into Light, and become the amazed Spectators of this grand and awful Day; how natural will it be to caſt your Eyes around, to ſurvey every Quarter, with anxious Earneſtneſs and doubtful Hopes, for ſome ſure and prevailing Friend, ſome powerful Advocate ſucceſsfully to plead your important Cauſe?—When, behold! There your afflicted Brethren, whom your laudable Compaſſion wiſely now relieves, will then ſtand forth your ſucceſsful Advocates; and with that ſeaſonable Appearance infinitely more than recompence your preſent largeſt Bounty, by obtaining that high Approbation, pronounced with Divine Complacency, *Verily, I ſay unto you, inaſmuch as you have done it unto one of the leaſt*

of THESE *my Brethren*, (which ſuppoſes them preſent at the great Solemnity) *inaſmuch as ye have done it to the leaſt of theſe my Brethren, ye have done it unto me. Enter Thou into the Joy of thy Lord.*

HAPPY Event; *to lay up this good Reward, for the Day of Neceſſity!* When the *Bleſſing of him that was ready to periſh will ſo plentifully come upon you!*

BUT, on the contrary, which I am greatly unwilling to ſuppoſe, ſhould the dangerous Influence of ſome lurking Avarice, ſome mean narrow Principle, at preſent artfully diſguiſed, becauſe not decently to be avowed; ſhould this fatal Influence prevail againſt Reaſon and Religion, againſt the Dictates of Humanity, the Suggeſtions of Conſcience, and the Commands of God, *your Father in Heaven*: Can you bear the Thoughts of then looking upon theſe deſpiſed, neglected Creatures. They muſt riſe, they muſt appear in Judgment againſt you: How ſhocking will be that Appearance, when you can no longer *turn away your Face from the Poor!*

WILL the preſent ſuperficial Excuſes then give Quiet to your own Mind; or is there Room to hope they will appeaſe and ſatisfy an omniſcient Judge? Will they prevent the dire Effects of an ill-timed Avarice, in the Event

equally pernicious to yourself, as it was cruel to your Brother? Will these Pretences avert a Sentence loaded with the utmost Horror?— *I was sick and ye visited me not; Depart from me ye cursed into everlasting Fire, prepared for malevolent and uncharitable Spirits, the Devil and his Angels!* Dreadful Condition! When that Guilt, which needs the greatest Mercy and Alleviation, *shall find no Mercy, because it shewed no Mercy!*

WHICH Way soever our Thoughts are directed, either to the future or present State of Things, what powerful Inducements offer in behalf of such innocent Distress, so much deplorable Misery?

LOOK up to Heaven, there, the constant Goodness, the adorable Authority, the amiable Example and solemn Command of *our Father in Heaven*, strongly enforce that Sympathy, which *is merciful as he is merciful.*

SURVEY the Order and Constitution of the World on which we dwell; reflect upon the near, the brotherly Relation of Mankind to each other; consider their mutual Necessities and Dependances, either as helpless Individuals or connected in Society: Can any thing be more suitable and apposite in such a Condition, than that benign Injunction, dictated

by Nature as well as Religion, *bear ye one anothers Burdens.*

And if we look within ourselves, Reason and Affection, every Maxim of Wisdom, every social and tender Passion, that compose the Human Frame, concur, with joint Intercession, in a Cause so justly affecting.

Let every Man therefore do *according as he is disposed in his Heart*; execute the friendly Pre-engagements of Nature in Favour of Distress; pursue the moving Suggestions of your own Bowels; relieve the Miseries of your Brethren, to relieve the painful Sensations of your own Sympathy; regard the Dictates of Humanity, the natural Benignity of your Constitution—*Do as you are disposed in your Heart.*

Did you behold a wretched Creature, almost exhausted with Grief and Pain, scarce supporting his weak Spirits, with the pleasing Hopes of a comfortable Reception and Retreat; but when he comes to his Journey's End, unavoidably refused Entrance; and after this sore Disappointment, obliged to undergo the painful Fatigue of returning to a forlorn Chamber, there to grieve and languish, till Death put a Period to his Sorrows! Could you be an unconcerned Spectator of this moving Scene; were such an Object languishing at your Feet, could you insult his Misery, could you trample

upon

upon him? No. Your Bowels shiver at the Thought; when perhaps it would be less cruel for you an immediate End to such piercing Sorrows; than to suffer, for want of your necessary Help, a disconsolate Wretch to linger on a few Days, in great Torture, and consume the poor Remains of his hard-earned Substance, which might be of some little Service to his destitute Widow and Children.

Fictions have their Force; the Passions may be raised by Art: But here is no Room for Fiction, nor any Need of Art. The Case is real; the Misery great and certain beyond Dispute. Would to God! it were not confirmed by many, very many melancholly and, I hope, moving Instances of grievous Maladies aggravated by helpless Indigence!

And what Heart can be obdurate enough to permit a *Brother* thus to expire in Grief and Want, unpitied, unassisted, and unrelieved? How does the hardned Conduct of Joseph's envious Brethren affect your Mind? What Abhorrence does this unnatural Cruelty raise in your Breast? Can your Heart, far from being *grieved at the Afflictions of your Brethren*, without Pity and Remorse, be a Neglicence, that would deeper than an actual Injury, align Numbers to lingering Tortures and certain Death? it must be repeated,

Num-

Numbers of your BRETHREN; for *have we not all one Father? hath not one God created us?*

BRING the Caſe home to yourſelves---*Do as you would be done unto*: Nay, *do as you are diſpoſed in your Heart.* Let Conſcience ſpeak; let Conſcience be heard; I can aſk no more; the mournful Calamities of your Brethren will demand no more, to comfort their fainting Hearts, to reſtore them to their Health, to reſtore them to their Families, to reſtore them to their Country; and to ſecure to you and to your Children, beſides the higheſt Satisfaction a rational Creature can poſſibly enjoy, the Protection, the Mercy, the Bleſſing of *your common Father, which is in Heaven.*

Such Perſons therefore as are inclined to encourage and promote ſo laudable a work, are deſired to ſend their Subſcriptions or Benefactions to Mr. Thomas Minors, *Banker, in* Lombard-ſtreet, *who will give proper Receipts for the ſame. And any Perſon inclined by his laſt Will to bequeath a Legacy to this Charity, is deſired to do it in the following Manner, viz.*

Item, *I give and bequeath unto* A. B. *and* C. D. *the Sum of upon Truſt; and to the intent that they, or either of them, do pay the ſame to the Treaſurer or Treaſurers for the Time being, of the Society of the Governors of the* London Infirmary, *for the Relief of Sick and Diſeaſed Manufacturers, Seamen in Merchant-Service, their Wives and Children; which ſaid Sum of I deſire may be applied towards charitable carrying on the Deſigns of the ſaid Society.*

AN ACCOUNT OF THE RISE, PROGRESS, and STATE OF THE LONDON INFIRMARY;

Supported by CHARITABLE and VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTIONS, for the Relief of Sick and Diseased MANUFACTURERS, SEAMEN in MERCHANT-SERVICE, and their WIVES and CHILDREN; from the First INSTITUTION on the 3d of *November*, 1740, to the 25th of *March*, 1744, inclusive.

ALL Circumstances that affect the Mind of Man with Compassion, no one seems to touch it so nearly, as the seeing our Fellow-Creatures labouring with Diseases, and even perishing under them for want of proper and timely Assistance; for who, that is not savage in nature, can pass by those Numbers of miserable Objects, who daily present themselves to us, and whose various Diseases (were all other Motives silent) would be as so many Tongues, which at once speak their

their own Anguish and excite our Pity. As the Characteristick of the *English* is to be humane and beneficent, so nothing shews it more than Institutions of a publick Nature, such as Hospitals and Infirmaries, which are here better regulated and supplied with Necessaries, than in any other Country whatsoever. Some there are of Royal Endowment, and established Revenue, and others of more modern Institution, erected and supported by the generous and voluntary Contributions of good and well-disposed Persons; but all these are by Experience known to be no ways adequate to the Numbers that seek Assistance from them; for as they can take in no more Patients than they have Beds, or give Medicine to more than their Income will allow, many poor unhappy Creatures must be unavoidably lost. For 'tis a Truth well known, that tho' the City of *London* is more populous, and by its Trade and Navigation, the labouring Part thereof are more subject to Accidents and Diseases than the common People of *Paris*; yet it appears from the annual printed Accounts, that the *Hotel Dieu* alone contains more Patients at one time than all our Hospitals and Infirmaries together. If such Provision is made for the diseased Inhabitants of *Paris*, those of *London* more immediately require our Regard; particularly, the *British* Manufacturers and Seamen, as they are the chief Support of both our foreign and domestick Trade.

The Strength and Security of *Great Britain* depending chiefly on its Naval Power, the Wisdom of the Legislature has shewed a peculiar Concern for the Comfort and Happiness of such infirm and disabled Seamen, as have been engaged in the Service of the Royal Navy: But for Seamen employ'd only in the Service of the Merchant, and Trading Part of the Kingdom, or the Wives and Families of such, in Distress by Sickness, no desirable Publick Provision has yet been made, or particularly instituted for their Relief. Nor are our numerous, poor, industrious Manufacturers, and Artificers, or their Wives and Children, by any particular Donations or Establishment, sufficiently provided for, under the Calamity of bodily Diseases and Casualties; tho' in such afflicting and melancholy Circumstances, they are incapable of providing for themselves or Families by their usual Labour and Industry.

These Considerations have induced many Benevolent and Publick-spirited Gentlemen, Merchants, and others, to unite their Endeavours, by publick Subscription, to erect an Hospital, where *British* Sailors in the Merchant-Service, their Wives and Children, and poor *British* Manufacturers, their Wives and Children, are daily admitted, and find Relief in Distress by Sickness or Casualties: And this without any Difficulty or Expence of Admittance.

Situation. In order to answer the Ends proposed, a proper House was taken in Prescot-street, Goodman's-Fields, which Situation was judged the most convenient, as being near the usual Abodes of Manufacturers and Seafaring Men in the Merchant-Service, and at a considerable Distance from any Hospital.

General Frame, and Regulation of this Society. The Society for carrying on this laudable Undertaking consists of a President, Vice-Presidents, and Treasurer, annually elected out of the most considerable Benefactors to this Charity, and of such Persons who by giving a Benefaction of 30 Guineas or more at one time, become Governors for Life; as likewise such who subscribe five Guineas or more a Year to this Charity, and are thereby entitled to be Governors during such Subscription.

General Court. A General Court of Governors is held four times a Year; namely, in the Months of *March*, *June*, *September*, and *December*, to take the Reports of the Committees, elect a House Committee for the ensuing Quarter, inspect Accounts, and transact such other Business as may then be laid before them. And at the General Court in *March*, the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and other Officers are chosen. Another General Court of the Governors and Subscribers, being their Anniversary Feast, is held between the 25th of *March* and the last Day of *April*, when a Report of the State of the *Infirmary*, the Number of Patients received and discharged in the preceeding Year, the Proceedings of the Governors, and an Abstract of the Accounts for the Year past, is laid before them, and printed for the Satisfaction of the Publick.

House-Committee. A House Committee is appointed at every General Quarterly Court, consisting of thirteen Governors, who at their first Meeting elect a Chairman to preside for the whole Quarter. Four of the Committee take the first Month, Four the next Month, and Four the last Month of the said Quarter. This Committee meets

every

every Friday at the *Infirmary*, to Receive and Diſmiſs all Pa-
tients, to Order and Inſpect the Diet and Proviſions, and all
Goods ſent in by the ſeveral Tradeſmen, *for the Uſe of the*
Infirmary, and ſee that they be Cheap and Good of the kind;
to order any Conveniences that may from Time to Time be
wanting, and to Examine and Regulate the Conduct of all the
Servants and Patients of the Houſe. All Governors that pleaſe
to attend, have a Vote at this Committee.

Committee of Accounts.

A Committee of Accounts, conſiſting of twelve Governors, is appointed at the General Quarterly Court in the Month of *June*, for one Year, who meet at the *Infirmary* once a Quarter, to Receive, Examine, and Audit Tradeſmen's Bills, which are conſtantly Paid by the Treaſurer within a Fortnight after ſuch Audit; all which Accounts are kept in a Regular Mercantile Manner, and are ready at any time for the Inſpection of any of the Governors.

Phyſical Committee.

A Phyſical Committee, conſiſting of all the Phyſicians, Surgeons, Apothecaries, Druggiſts, and Chemiſts, who are Governors of this *Infirmary*, meet once a Month to Examine all Medicines and Drugs brought into the Diſpenſary, and no Drugs or Medicines are ſuffered to be uſed without their Approbation.

Viſitors.

Two Governors are appointed Houſe Viſitors by the Committee, for one Fortnight, whoſe Buſineſs is to attend every *Thurſday* and *Saturday*, and at ſuch other times as they think proper, to inſpect into the Management and Conduct of the Houſe, during the Interval of the Meetings of the Houſe Committee.

Phyſician and Surgeon.

Two Phyſicians, a Surgeon in Ordinary, and an Aſſiſtant Surgeon attend Daily from Eleven o'Clock till One, without any Fee or Reward, and give their Advice and Aſſiſtance to all ſuch poor diſeaſed Objects as come in thoſe Hours, whether Recommended or Accidental. A Surgeon extraordinary, attends and adviſes in all dangerous and extraordinary Caſes.

Apothecary.

An Apothecary conſtantly reſides at the *Infirmary*, who Compounds and Diſpenſes all Medicines uſed there, and ſolely attends the Buſineſs thereof.

Chaplain.

And as the Governors of this Charity are deſirous that the utmoſt Regard may be had to the Souls of the Patients, as well as their Bodies, a Clergyman of the Church of *England* has gene-

rouſly

Steward, Matron, Nurſes, Watchers.

Governors.

Proper Objects.

The Plan of our Proceedings, and the this Work is but in its Infancy, yet has been encouraged by Numbers of Distinguished Humanity, that we have the Satisfaction to assure the Publick, that since the 23d of *November*, 1740, it has pleased God to bless us with such Success, that upwards of 9000 distressed Objects have been Relieved at the *London Infirmary*, and from Labouring under the Oppression of some of the most malignant Diseases, and unhappy Accidents, have been reinstated in their Honest and Industrious Capacities of Working, whereby the Publick again enjoy the Benefit of their Labour, they, and their poor Families preserved from perishing, and prevented from being a constant Incumbrance to the Community.

The Subscribers are desired to take Notice, that if any Patients shall not conform to the Rules of the House, or are guilty of any Misbehaviour, they will be discharged for such Irregularity, and never more relieved by this Charity.

The admitting of In-Patients troubled with Asthmatic and Consumptive Cases having been found greatly prejudicial to themselves, all Governors are desired not to recommend any such as In-Patients; they being more capable of Relief as Out-Patients.

An

An Account of Receipts and Payments of *Richard Chifwell*, junior, Esq; Treasurer of the LONDON-INFIRMARY, from the 25th of *March* 1743, to the 25th of *March* 1744.

Money Received.				Money Paid.			
To Cash received by *Thomas Bethell*, Esq; the late Treasurer, the Balance of his Account		85	7 4	By House-keeping for Provisions, &c. Meat, Bakers, Brewer, Chandlers, Milk, Fruit, Coals, Candles, Medicines, Surgery, and Money Disb.		498	1 10½
To a Legacy left by Mrs. *Sarah Morgan*, deceased		40		By Household Furniture, Cloathing, Tradesmens Wages, Linnen		97	8 10
To Benefactions		994	11 0	By House-Rent and Taxes		44	2 8
To Government Subscriptions		972	16 0	By Salaries, Wages and Gratuities		172	13 6
To other Subscriptions		166	5 4	By Stationary Ware and Printing		101	10 8
To the Lock		68	9 6	By petty Expences		44	2 2½
To the Poor-box		34	19 9	By the Dispensary, viz. for Drugs, Medicines, &c.		166	18 5½
To Interest on 630 *l.* Three *per Cent.* Annuities, due at *Christmas* last		9	12 9	By Burials		6	7 0
				By Repairs		109	19 5
	£.	2370	11 8			1250	1 2½
				By Legacies and Benefactions paid into the Hands of *Fotherley Baker* and *Richard Chifwell*, junior, Esqrs; to purchase Three *per Cent.* Annuities		1044	11 0
						2280	12 2½
				By Balance in the Hands of *Richard Chifwell*, junior, Esq;		89	19 5½
					£.	2370	11 8

Fotherley Baker, and *Richard Chifwell*, junior, Esqrs; Trustees to the LONDON-INFIRMARY,

				1743.	*Contra, Creditor.*			
To Balance				*June* 17.	By 400 Three *per Cent.* Annuities —		407	0 0
To Legacies and Benefactions	£.	1044	11 0	*Nov.* 2.	By 250 ditto		252	16 3
				Feb. 6.	By 200 ditto —		199	15
				March 15.	By 150 ditto —		147	3 9
					1000	£.	1006	15 0
					By Balance in the Hands of *Fotherby Baker* and *Richard Chifwell*, junior, Esqrs		37	16 0
						£.	1044	11 0

A General Abstract of Receipts and Payments from the First Institution of this Infirmary, viz. From the 3d of *November*, 1740, to the 25th of *March*, 1744.

Receipts from *Fotherley Baker*, Esq; from *Jan.* 1, 1741, to *March* 25, 1743.	698	14	6
Ditto from *Thomas Bacon*, Esq; from *March* 25, 1743, to *March* 25, 1744.	39	4	8
Ditto from *Richard Chiswell*, jun. Esq; from *March* 25, 1743, to *March* 25, 1744.	1085	6	4
To Total Receipts	1823	5	6

By Cash disbursed by *Fotherley Baker*, Esq; from *March* 25, 1740, to *Jan.* 1, 1741.	206	5	6
By ditto by *Thomas Bacon*, Esq; from *Jan.* 1, 1741, to *March* 25, 1743.	1146	6	4
By ditto by *Richard Chiswell*, jun. Esq; from *March* 25, 1743, to *March* 25, 1744.	336	1	2½
Total Payments	1688	13	0½
By Ballance	134	10	5½
Total	1823	5	6

The Particulars of which Ballance are, viz.

Cash in the Hands of *Richard Chiswell* jun. Esq;	89	19	5½
Ditto in the Hands of *Fotherley Baker*, and *Richard Chiswell*, jun. Esqrs.	37	16	0
1000 *l.* Three per Cent. Annuities	1006	15	0
Total	1134	10	5½ Ballance of the General Account.

An Account of Patients under the Care of the London Infirmary, from *March* 25, 1743, to *March* 25, 1744.

Patients received into the House	311	
Out-Patients	3877	
	4188	

Patients now in the House	46	
Out-Patients now on the Books	761	
		807
In-Patients discharged cured	219	
Incurable	13	
Misbehaviour	2	
Dead	31	
		265
Out-Patients cured who returned Thanks	1689	
Discharged who did not return Thanks, tho' most of these are known to be cured	1305	
Misbehaviour	72	
Incurable	50	
	3116	
		4188

N.B. Out of the above 4188 were Casualties received without any Recommendation.

Under the Care of this Infirmary.

From 3 *Nov.* 1740 to 12 *May* 1742	2315	
From 12 *May* 1742 to 25 *March* 1743	2702	
From 25 *March* 1743 to 25 *March* 1744.	4188	
Total	9205	

A

LIST

OF

GOVERNORS and CONTRIBUTORS

TO THE

LONDON INFIRMARY.

His Grace CHARLES Duke of Richmond, Lenox, and Aubigny, Prefident.

** FOTHERLEY BAKER, Esq; Vice-Prefident.

RICHARD CHISWELL Junior, Esq; Treasurer.

*Those marked thus * are annual* GOVERNORS.

*Those marked with ** are* GOVERNORS *for Life.*

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* Mr. John Young

Z.

* Mr. John Zachary, Merchant

BENE-

BENEFACTIONS, &c.

A Perſon unknown, by Mr. Robert Harriſon,			
Ditto — by Tho. Beehm, Eſq;			
Ditto — by Ditto			
Ditto, in Suffolk, by William Myre, Eſq;			
Mrs. Raymond			
From a Lady unknown, by the Rev. Mr. Broughton			
Mrs. Catherine Morley			
By a Lady unknown			
By a Lady unknown, by Isaac Ld. Biſhop of St. Aſaph			
Ditto — by Isaac Lord Biſhop of St. Aſaph	5	5	0
From A. B.	2	2	0
From a Perſon unknown	1	1	0
From a Lady unknown, by the Rev. Mr. Broughton	2	2	0
From a Perſon unknown, by the Rev. Mr. Calamy	3	2	0
Ditto, by Mr. Thomas Jones			
Sundry Freehold Goods from Mr. James Latour, the Value of	50	0	0
From Ditto in Caſh	62	10	0
From a Perſon unknown by Ebenezer Mouſell, Eſq;	21	0	0
From a Perſon unknown, by Richard Chiſwel, Jun. Eſq;	5	16	6
A Perſon unknown			
From E. M. and H. D. by Mr. Iſaac Hunter	5	5	0
From a Lady unknown, by Mr. Will. Cleaver, Jun.	2	2	0
From an unknown Hand			
From a Perſon unknown, by Alderman Hoare,	2	12	6
From a Lady unknown, by Joſeph Willon, Eſq;	5	5	0

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Dr. John Andree, Auſtin-Friars, *Phyſician in Ordinary.*
Dr. John Coningham, Bartlet-Buildings Holborn, *Phyſician Extraordinary.*
Mr. John Harriſon, Savage Gardens, *Surgeon in Ordinary.*
Mr. Henry Bodſon, Nicholas-Lane Lombard-Street, *Aſſiſtant Surgeon.*
William Petty, Eſq; Fenchurch-Street, *Surgeon Extraordinary.*
Mr. Richard Neale, Dowgate-Hill, *Secretary.*
Mr. Godfrey Webb, *Apothecary.*
Mr. Benjamin Gifford, *Steward.*
Mrs. Elizabeth Broad, *Matron of the Infirmary.*
Mrs. Elizabeth Gilbert, *Matron of the Lock.*

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